

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 PM-03 L-01 INR-05 SP-02

NSC-05 NSCE-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 PRS-01 /047 W

----- 008384

R 011300Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1407

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 3903

LIMDIS

BEIRUT PASS BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XO, XF, SA

SUBJECT: SAUDI-IRANIAN-IRAQI COOPERATION IN THE GULF

1. SAUDI CROWN PRINCE FAHD WILL VISIT KUWAIT JUNE 8-9 AND BAGHDAD JUNE 10-11. SOMETIME THEREAFTER HE WILL VISIT IRAN AND ABU DHABI.

2. PRINCE FAHD TOLD THE AMBASSADOR MAY 31 THAT THE MAIN PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WAS TO ENHANCE SAUDI-IRANIAN FRIENDSHIP - "SOMETHING YOU HAVE BEEN URGING US TO DO FOR YEARS." NOW THAT IRAN AND IRAQ HAVE PATCHED UP THEIR DIFFERENCES, HE SAID, IT SHOULD ALSO BE POSSIBLE TO BRING IRAQ INTO THE PEACEFUL PERSIAN GULF FOLD.

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3. KING KHALID, IN A MEETING WITH CONGRESSMAN DUPONT

ON MAY 29, SAID THAT HE AGREED WITH THE SHAH THAT FOREIGN INFLUENCE SHOULD BE ELIMINATED FROM THE GULF.

4. COMMENT: FAHD DID NOT RPT NOT SAY SO EXPLICITLY BUT HE SEEMS CLOSE TO TOYING WITH THE IDEA OF A PERSIAN GULF SECURITY PACT, PROBABLY AIMED AT RE-MOVING THE RUSSIANS FROM UM QASR AND US FROM BAHRAIN. ARAB RADICALS, ACCORDING TO FHAD, ARE ALREADY TAUNTING THEM WITH THE IRRATIONALITY OF ALLOWING AMERICAN FORCES TO REMAIN IN BAHRAIN WHILE AMERICAN OFFICIALS PERSIST IN SPEAKING OF USE OF FORCE AGAINST THE ARABS.

5. BEFORE THE SAUDIS GET TO THE POINT OF USING THEIR INFLUENCE TO GET US OUT OF BAHRAIN, HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE SOME OF THEM (AT LEAST THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, PRINCE SULTAN) MAY CONCLUDE THAT THE MAIN DANGER TO THE ARABS IN THE FUTURE WILL BE IRAN AND THAT A CONTINUING U.S. PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN COULD BE A DETERRENT TO WHATEVER EXPANSIONIST IDEAS THE SHAH MAY HAVE.
AKINS

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